

Kanungu Humanist Primary School

Update from Robert Magara, School Director

June 2024





Kanungu children enjoying school

From Robert Magara to UHST supporters...

I should like to thank supporters of Uganda Humanist Schools Trust whose donations have enabled us to establish Kanungu Humanist Primary School as the key provider of liberal, secular education in our community. Our appreciation for your support is more than words can express. Your generous and unwavering support has enabled us to build up our school with good educational and welfare standards. It has also enabled us to come through the opposition and attempted boycott of our school promoted by local evangelical Christian churches. Uninformed opposition kept recruitment low to begin with. However, parents have been reassured to see that we are creating a caring and happy school community with good educational standards. As a result, enrolment has risen from 90 in 2022 to 250 today, which makes the school viable.

Your generous and unwavering support has shone a light on our school, giving us strength and courage to keep going even when things get tough.

UHST funds have made a huge difference and I want you to know what your support has enabled us to achieve. We have made huge improvements in school infrastructure and regular monthly transfers have helped us to meet regular payments for school food, firewood and staff salaries. Since 2022 we have:

1. Built and refurbished 10 classrooms.

2. Acquired books and learning materials.

3. Secured the future of the school by getting it officially recognised and registered with the Ministry of Education and Sports.

4. Enhanced our environment by growing fruits trees, herbs and other tree species in and around the school.



5. Retained the commitment and loyalty of our staff by ensuring timely monthly salary payments.

6. Overcome water supply problems by establishing a metered water supply and installing tanks to store rainwater.

7. Improved the health and education of girls. Since providing Afripads (reuseable sanitary pads) and access to hand washing, girls' attendance now matches that of boys. 8. Improve school nutrition. We can now provide children with good quality food for breakfast, lunch and evening meals.



9. Gain our best Primary Leaving Examination (PLE) results. We had the first child in the whole sub-county to gain a Grade 1 in the PLE exam. We are proud of this and, as a result, local parents are now very keen to get their children into our school despite the ongoing opposition from some local churches.

10. Recently, UHST has provided funds to bring mains electricity to the school and to fit lights and power in all classrooms. This is great! Teachers and children can do their revision, lesson plans and research. It is wonderful. Security and safety of children is much improved.

UHST support has firmly established our school and raised its standing within the local community. We now attract children from near and far.

We truly appreciate UHST supporters' commitment to our school, children and families. We undertake to reward your confidence in us by continuing to improve standards of welfare and education through humanity and equality.

My warmest thanks.

Sincerely

Robert Magara

If you would like to help UHST the ongoing development of Kanungu and other Humanist schools please contact: <u>stevehurd@uhst.org</u> (01782 750338).

Donation forms can be found at: <u>https://ugandahumanistschoolstrust.org/donate/</u>